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ORIGIN/ACTION			DEPARTMENT OF STATE			Pol. 27-12 GER		
EUR-5			AIRGRAM			FOR RM USE ONLY		
1	REP	AP	A-635			CONFIDENTIAL		
ARA	EUR	PE	NO.			Priority		
2	CU	IMR	TO : Department of State			HANDLING INDICATOR		
3	P	IG	Info : Amembassy VIENNA			DATE: February 27, 1963		
4	PRG	AID	FROM : Amembassy MADRID			SUBJECT : Austrian Ambassador Denies Extradition Request for Skorzeny		
5	SRZ	SRZ	REF :			In Joint Weeka No. 6 (A-567, February 8), the Embassy reported Spanish newspaper accounts to the effect that the Austrian Government had requested the GOS to arrest <u>Otto SKORZENY</u> for alleged war crimes.		
6	AGR	COM	S			The Austrian Ambassador in Madrid, Dr. Karl GRÜBER, when queried by an Embassy officer about this matter, stated that this affair had been a source of constant embarrassment to him and his Government, since there had never been any request for Skorzeny's extradition. The Austrian Government had, on the other hand, requested the arrest of a notorious swindler by the name of TORKO, who was wanted by the Austrian police on charges of fraudulent export operations. At the time Torko was arrested by the Spaniards and handed over to the Austrian police, some Spanish newspapers confused Torko with Skorzeny. The Spanish newspaper reports in turn were carried by the Austrian press, causing the Government some embarrassment. To make matters worse, Skorzeny, rather than keeping quiet, held a press conference denying the war crimes charges, which resulted in additional publicity. Grüber said that in reply to an inquiry about Skorzeny's status, he received confidential notification from Vienna that there was an investigation pending for Skorzeny's alleged complicity in the murder of three members of the Austrian resistance in April 1945, but that the investigation, although carried on for several years, was too inconclusive to ask for Skorzeny's extradition and that therefore at this time no action against him was planned.		
7	INT	LAB	FORM 05-323			CONFIDENTIAL		
8	VR	KMB	Dated by: GWLandau/mm			FOR DEPT. USE ONLY		
9	ARMY	GIA	2/25/63			[] L [] O		
10	NAVY	NAVY	Classified and Classification Approved by: RHM McBride			Date: 2001, 2005		
11	SEC	URIA	FOR COORDINATION WITH			Declassified and Approved for Release by the Central Intelligence Agency		
12	NSA	NSA	Date: 2001, 2005			NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT		

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy ☒
- (2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
- (2)(G) Foreign Relations ☒

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